

Well, then, the people in Hongkong, not being able to serve in their persons did not sit down and do nothing. No, they called meetings, and they said "While we are not able to send out any men from Hongkong we will do the next best thing, and that is we will help those who are serving." (Applause.) We will help their wives and their widows and their relations. Well, they called meetings, and I am glad to say that I was called to one of those meetings at the beginning. When the matter was first mentioned—mind you, men of *Terrible* will soon find out the size of Hongkong—I thought we might perhaps raise a matter of £1,000, or at the outside, £2,000. But what do you think was the sum of money raised here? I was surprised to learn that it was over £15,000. (Loud applause.) I consider, and I am sure you will all agree with me, that that was a magnificent effort of generosity. (Applause.) Now comes Hongkong's welcome to you. Now comes Hongkong's welcome to you. The Hongkong citizens determined to give you a welcome which would be acceptable to you and agreeable to you. They were very anxious—because, again, they took me kindly into their councils—that they should give you a welcome which would be pleasing to you, and yet, at the same time, that they should not develop into anything hysterical, which might cause it to appear as though we Englishmen were surprised that the sailors of the Queen had done their duty. (Hear, hear.) And so you see the welcome we have given to you to-night, and you will see the welcome which will follow. I think I am justified in saying—I am the only man who can say this, I am a looker-on, having nothing to do with Hongkong beyond the fact that I am the General Officer Commanding for a few years—that in Hongkong there has always been a feeling for the soldiers and the sailors of the Queen that I think reflects high credit on the whole community of Hongkong. (Applause.)

Hearty cheers were given for the citizens of Hongkong and for the General Officer Commanding.

Captain Scott observed:—You have heard what the General Officer Commanding, who is at the moment the Governor of Hongkong, has said. When you were all at the front you were able to appreciate the luxuries sent to you in the shape of pipes and tobacco and various other things, which were sent to you owing to the liberal contributions raised in this colony, and so you are well able to appreciate the liberality of the citizens of Hongkong (applause) and appreciate this very large sum of money Hongkong provided. (Applause.) You have now got to appreciate the very magnificent reception the citizens have given you to-night, and I ask you now to give three cheers for the Entertainment Committee of Hongkong.

Sir John Carrington said:—We will not prolong the speech-making, as it is time to get to another wing of the building, where the smoking concert will be held, but I should like on behalf of the British community of Hongkong to return thanks to Captain Percy Scott for the kind words he has said about them, and to you for the way you received those kind words. I can assure you it is a great pleasure to have you here and to entertain you, and I hope, as I said on board the *Terrible*, we shall be able to make your stay in Hongkong agreeable to you. (Loud applause.)

The *Terrible* have fought for you, and you men of the *Terrible* have fought for the country, and we are glad that the time has come to give you a little pleasure and recreation. (Hear, hear.) I again thank you very much on behalf of the community of Hongkong for the kind way in which you have received their hospitality. (Loud applause.)

The company then adjourned to the Theatre for the smoking concert.

The Smoking Concert.

Up till now, with the exception of a dinner, which was decidedly a labour of love, the *Terribles* have been more or less on Parade and doing the "show business" themselves; now came their turn to be the spectators, and right well they departed themselves. One very great advantage they possessed, as they had been away from civilization so long that the songs, jokes etc. given on the stage were new to them; and therefore the more acceptable. The programme had already been published and a most enjoyable time was expected. The seating accommodation even with the largest of buildings is limited, and so many who would have paid, and paid well, to have been present could not get the necessary invitation. The desire can well be guessed by the following. An invitation had been sent to the large number of Europeans are employed, a discussion arose as to who should avail himself of it. It was at last decided that the ticket should be put to auction, the proceeds going to the fund. This was therefore done and the ticket for the usual \$3.50 in the Dress circle was knocked down for \$5.50. We do not think that the purchaser had cause to find fault with his bargain either, the patriotic sentiment evoked by hearing 1,000 British soldiers and sailors joining in the choruses was quite worth the money, besides the very high class programme that was given.

A pleasant surprise awaited the Committee and the longed-for public who were unavoidably kept on the wrong side of the entrance, by finding that the arrangements that had been made for seating the invited guests allowed of a far greater number being present. Tickets were then freely distributed and in less than no time the hall was packed, care being taken that it should be not uncomfortably so. On the raising of the curtain Mr. Mitchell, who acted as Master of the Ceremonies announced that the programme was extremely lengthy and asked the audience not to press for encores which could not be granted, on exception alone being made in favour of the two ladies who so kindly had consented to assist. He, however, promised that, should time permit, encores would be allowed. Most of the performers are old friends of frequenters of concerts in this Colony, and so must not feel slighted by our not dilating at length on their turns, only want of space preventing us from saying pretty things about each. We will, however, enlarge on the programme by giving brief descriptions, not criticisms, of those not so well known. The Bonds recitation was a series of variations in the manner in which Tennyson's "Charge of the Light Brigade" was recited at a social gathering at which the reciter was present. Mr. Alec Marsh was in fine form when singing "The Handy Man." In the programme this was shown as composed by Mr. A. C. Ward, and a very pretty tune he has made of it. It is splendidly suited to Mr. Marsh's style but rather too classical for the ordinary audience, the result being that they were not able to join in with the heartiness that was expected, though the words for the choruses of the two verses had been dealt round previously. Mr. Ferrell's Musical Sketch was very well received, this eastern veteran personating the still treble sweet fourteen and the *baso profundo* of the young man who has attained the first bloom of manhood. The entire company assisted Miss H. Peel who sang "Listen to the Bird." The play from which this song is taken is so popular in Hongkong that no words of description are required. Hibernal atrocities—very aptly named, as the jokes made by them were worse than the Bulgarian atrocities—we will let our readers decide. Why was the Naval Brigade in S. Africa like a Doctor? Because it relieved Lady Smith. What do you think is the best solution for the Transvaal? The 47 guns. The

next one fairly doubled up poor Michael. Why is it that "Hobs" has not yet reached Pretoria? Because he has a blooming foreign toilet at present. We dare say the names Messrs. Michael O'Flaherty Casey and Patrick Murphy who are they? Well, Casey is our old friend Mr. Sexton in a new guise, he has been King, waiter and jester and now blossoms forth as Pat and does it equally as well, if not better than his former roles. Mr. Caldwell, also of pantomimic fame, was to have personated Patrick Murphy. The Malarial mosquito decreed otherwise; Mr. Caldwell was laid up at the last moment. Mr. Murphy, better known in the august circles of the Engineers' Institute was telegraphed to and proved himself as he is able to integrate a piece of machinery. A most clever turn was the result; very few, if any, being aware that only one day had been allowed for rehearsals.

In the second part the audience would not allow Mr. Marsh to retire without an encore and, as time permitted, he, by special request, gave "Simon the Cellarer." Sailors and soldiers are not supposed to know the intricacies of high musical art, but they certainly are good judges of a song and the manner in which it is sung. Mr. Marsh can sing himself with the knowledge that he held all the ground with the beauty of his voice and the mastery in which he holds it under control.

Miss Florence Peel's vivacious singing of "Look the other way," and her sprightly dancing so captivated the audience that she had to reappear no less than three times, even then they were not satisfied and were renewing their demands when Mr. Mitchell announced the next item. Both the Misses Peel were recipients of handsome bouquets, the donors of which evidently had shown great taste in selecting appropriately chosen gifts by the company. The programme concluded by the rule Britannia Private Town playing the air on the cornet. As the band struck up "O God save the Queen" the curtain again rose and the givers of the entertainment joined with the audience in singing that anthem that binds Britishers in all parts of the world as members of one body serving together for the advancement of civilization against ignorance, oppression and wrong.

We append the corrected programme:—

- PART I.
- 1.—Selection.....Pantomime.....The Orchestra.
 - 2.—Song "You've got a long way to go".....Mr. D. M. D.
 - 3.—Recitation....."The Charge of the Light Brigade".....Mr. D. M. D.
 - 4.—Song "The Handy Man".....Mr. A. C. Ward.
 - 5.—Song "Listen to the Bird".....Miss H. Peel.
 - 6.—Song "The Handy Man".....Mr. A. C. Ward.
 - 7.—Song "The Handy Man".....Mr. A. C. Ward.
 - 8.—Song "The Handy Man".....Mr. A. C. Ward.
 - 9.—Song "The Handy Man".....Mr. A. C. Ward.
 - 10.—Song "The Handy Man".....Mr. A. C. Ward.
- Interval 15 Minutes.
- PART II.
- 11.—Selection.....Pantomime.....The Orchestra.
 - 12.—Song "You've got a long way to go".....Mr. D. M. D.
 - 13.—Recitation....."The Charge of the Light Brigade".....Mr. D. M. D.
 - 14.—Song "The Handy Man".....Mr. A. C. Ward.
 - 15.—Song "Listen to the Bird".....Miss H. Peel.
 - 16.—Song "The Handy Man".....Mr. A. C. Ward.
 - 17.—Song "The Handy Man".....Mr. A. C. Ward.
 - 18.—Song "The Handy Man".....Mr. A. C. Ward.
 - 19.—Song "The Handy Man".....Mr. A. C. Ward.
 - 20.—Song "The Handy Man".....Mr. A. C. Ward.

SANITARY MATTERS.

The following reports have been circulated among the members of the Sanitary Board and will come up for discussion at the meeting to be held this afternoon, a full report of which will be given in our to-morrow's issue:—

REPLY TO TRUST SCHEME.

Colonial Secretary's Office,
May 1st, 1900.

Sir,—I am directed by the Officer Administering the Government to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 67 of the 27th ult., forwarding copy of a Resolution, passed by the Sanitary Board at a meeting held on the 26th inst., in which the Government is asked to set aside annually a fixed percentage of the assessed taxes and premia on land sales for the purpose of improving the Sanitation of Hongkong in such manner as the Sanitary Board with the approval of the Government may suggest.

In reply I am to state that His Excellency feels that the request made in the Resolution is too large a one for him in his capacity as Acting Governor only to deal with, but that as His Excellency is in sympathy with the object which the Board has in view he would suggest that the Board should draw up a scheme of sanitary improvements they consider necessary, which can be laid before the Governor on his return to the Colony.

(Sd.) J. H. MAY.

Acting Colonial Secretary.

Dr. W. Hartigan.—I think the Board have already given a list of works to be carried out at once.

Lieut. Col. Ryan, R. A. M. C.—"I think the suggestion of H. E. the Acting Governor an excellent one. A thorough scheme of Sanitary reform, including improvements of means dealing with epidemics, should be prepared by the Board."

EXPERIMENTS ON RAT POISONING IN SEWERS.

Sanitary Board Offices,
Hongkong, 24th April, 1900.

Sir,—Please lay before the Board for their information with a view to ascertain if they are desirous of these experiments being further continued. I am of opinion that no success can be expected for rats apparently do not inhabit these small glazed pipe sewers with their steep grades and rapid flow, particularly when they get ample food above ground. The overseer who has been on these sewers for some 13 years has never seen a rat in them, and taking into account the fact that the cleaning discs are passed through the sewers about once a month it rather suggests a proof that they do not frequent them at all.

Mr. H. H. the Acting Governor. Analysts, and myself have experimented in 2 lengths of the High Street 9' sewer from Castin street to Centre street and from Centre street to Pokfulam Road, 450 and 850 lineal feet respectively, (a neighbourhood which is reported to be greatly frequented by rats) and with no results.

The lengths tested were hermetically sealed to the tested lengths to catch any rats that might have been killed and brought away by the flush after opening the tested portions.

Experiment 1.—Material used.—Potassium Cyanide 12 lbs. Sulphuric Acid 7 lbs.

The Acid was diluted with four times its bulk of water. The hydrocyanic acid gas was generated in jars each jar containing 2 lb. of Cyanide and 2 pints of the diluted acid. Two jars were placed in each of three manholes.

One hour was allowed for the generation and spread of the gas, the sewer afterwards being flushed with water to ensure the spread of gas and to carry down dead rats. Test paper showed the presence of gas after being flushed with water. The percentage of poisonous gas in this test was about 12 per cent.

Experiment 2.—Material used.—Potassium Cyanide 20 lbs. Sulphuric Acid 10 lbs.

The acid was diluted and gas generated as in Exp. 1. In this case five manholes were used, three containing two generating jars with 2 lbs. of cyanide in each, the remaining two contained one and three jars respectively, these jars holding as before 2 lbs. cyanide. The experiment was carried out in a similar manner as before. The percentage of poisonous gas was about 15 per cent.

(Sd.) RICHARD F. DRURY,

Sanitary Surveyor.

Dr. W. Hartigan.—"Any one who was acquainted with Hongkong knew the experiments must fail."

The Principal Civil Medical Officer.—"I anticipated failure. Better stop these experiments as they are unsuited for Hongkong."

REMOVAL OF URINAL.

The following reply has been received from the Government relative to the request made at the last Board meeting.

Sir,—I am directed by the Officer Administering the Government to acknowledge the receipt of your letter No. 70 of the 27th inst., stating that the Sanitary Board asked for a re-consideration of the decision in the matter of the removal of the urinal at the west end of the Cricket ground.

In reply I am to state that owing to the location of the Hongkong Club and numerous other large buildings on the Praya Reclamation, a urinal for the use of the numerous chair and jinnickshah Coolies employed in connection with those buildings in the immediate vicinity is rendered absolutely necessary.

If the urinal referred to by the Board is removed it must therefore be removed to a site in the immediate vicinity, and to find such a site that will at the same time be free from objection is by no means easy, and may entail considerable expense.

A solution of the difficulty is under consideration and if the negotiations which are necessary to give effect to it are carried to a successful issue the Board will be informed in due course.

(Sd.) F. H. MAY.

30th April, 1900.

Mr. Mackie minutes—"The urinal would be considered a disgrace to any small village at home."

Dr. Hartigan.—"The place may be necessary, but it need not be unsightly. At present its site is only equalled by the Government latrines at St. John's Place and on McDonnell Road."

ADDITIONAL CATTLE SHEDS AT KENNEDY TOWN.

The D. P. W. being asked to report on resolution submitted by Sanitary Board at their last meeting said:—

The last shed cost \$9,120 but as a site was already prepared and drained, etc., a new shed below the present cattle depots would cost about \$11,000. Shall I note it for 1901 estimates?

The Acting Colonial Secretary replied "This is necessary work and might be included in 1901 estimates."

H. E. the Officer Administering the Government approved.

H.B.M. Consul at Vuchow, P.F. Hauser, Esq., in a letter dated the 25th ultimo reports several cases of plague as having occurred in that city and suburbs during the previous few days.

UNFIT FOR HABITATION.

No. 1 Chuk Hing Lane, having been found to be so dark and so ill ventilated as to be dangerous to the health of the inmates it was proposed at the Board meeting to be declared unfit for human habitation.

PLAGUE.

The Plague returns from Bombay show 3,704 cases and 2,887 deaths from February 27th to March 26th, 1900.

Concerning the proposed Observation station under the Venice Sanitary Convention, the medical officer of Health recommends that the Sanitary Board should urge the Government to proceed at once with the building of premises suitable for a segregation camp at Lai Chi Kok and in view of the destruction done to matches and similar structures by typhoons, and the fact that although comparatively expensive structures they rapidly perish, he would suggest that buildings of brick or stone should be built one story high, with the streets running at right angles, to the foreshore. The buildings to accommodate ten persons and if required for two families they could be partitioned off. These buildings could be utilised to remove patients from badly stricken plague districts.

H.B.M. Consul at Tainan, W. J. Kenny, Esq., reports:—

No. of Deaths. No. of Recoveries. No. of New Cases. No. of Total Cases.

Taipei Ken 134 103 19 12 7

Taipei Ken 11 5 10 6 10

Tainan Ken 136 93 29 23 19

Gilan Chio 1 1 1 1 1

Total 282 201 40 41 36

SANITARY SURVEYOR'S REPORT.

The following tables show:—

A. The work done during the quarter.

B. The number of repairs executed during the quarter.

C. The total work done since the Public Health Ordinance came into force.

Year. No. of houses for which plans have been received. No. of houses for which plans have been received. No. of houses for which plans have been received. No. of houses for which plans have been received.

1899 Carried forward 64 12 76 464 388

1900 1st quarter 4 4 4 166 162

68 12 80 630 550

Repair Buildings. No. of houses for which plans have been received. No. of houses for which plans have been received. No. of houses for which plans have been received. No. of houses for which plans have been received.

Carried forward from 1899 26 183 137

1900 1st quarter 7 104 97

33 287 334

Year. No. of houses for which plans have been received. No. of houses for which plans have been received. No. of houses for which plans have been received. No. of houses for which plans have been received.

1899 to 1899 Inclusive 10956 9957 535 64 3185

1900 1st qtr. 166 68 12 630 91

11122 10025 547 3276

LIMEWASHING.

Mr. Dandy, Chief Inspector reports:—The period for the Central District has now expired, with 7 days grace, and still according to notifications of intention sent in 535 houses still require limewashing. It is possible that a good proportion of these houses have been done without notification. The Inspector is, however, now devoting himself to prosecuting all owners of above houses for (1) Not notifying the Department of Intention to cleanse; or either or both counts.

This work is proceeding as quickly as possible, regarding lack of facilities at the Land office to quickly obtain the requisite names of owners of the various houses.

HONGKONG GENERAL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

At the Monthly Meeting of the General Committee of the Hongkong General Chamber of Commerce, held at noon on Monday, the 7th May, there were present: Hon. R. M. Gray, Chairman, Messrs. H. M. Davis, A. Haupt, A. M. Marshall, R. L. Richardson, C. S. Sharp, N. A. Siebs, Hon. Herbert Smith, and R. C. Wilcox Secretary.

MINUTES.

The minutes of the last monthly meeting (held 18th April) were read and confirmed.

ELECTION OF COMMITTEES.

On the motion of the Chairman, seconded by Mr. Davis, the following members were elected as the corresponding committee:—The Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Hon. H. Smith, and Mr. A. M. Marshall.

The Chairman then proposed, and the Hon. H. Smith seconded, that the Arbitration Committee should be composed of the following:—Messrs. H. M. Davis, A. Haupt, R. L. Richardson, C. S. Sharp, and N. A. Siebs.

Carried unanimously.

THE CHAMBER'S REPRESENTATIVE IN THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

Read letter from the Acting Colonial Secretary, dated 4th May, in reply to the Chamber's letter of 30th April announcing the nomination of Mr. Herbert Smith at a special general meeting of the members, stating that His Excellency the Officer Administering the Government had in consequence been pleased to appoint Mr. Smith to be member of the Legislative Council vice Mr. T. H. Whitehead on leave of absence, subject to confirmation by Her Majesty.

REDUCTION OF CABLE RATES.

Read letter from San Francisco Chamber of Commerce, dated 29th March, stating that since writing on the 28th December last, a reply had been received from the Western Union Telegraph Company, together with correspondence from their London branch, copies of which documents were enclosed, and from which the San Francisco Chamber concluded there were good prospects of an early reduction in rates.

The Secretary said the correspondence simply referred to the proposal made by the Telegraph Companies to the British Government for a reduction in the tariff under certain conditions, the terms of which had already been laid before the Chamber.

POSTAL COMPLAINT FROM MANILA.

The Secretary reported that, on the 21st April, a letter had been addressed to the Acting Postmaster General setting out the complaint made by the Manila Chamber of the late receipt of European mails forwarded through Hongkong, and that a reply had been received stating that instructions had been issued that would prevent a recurrence of the same cause of complaint.

A copy of the Postmaster's letter had been despatched to the Manila Chamber with a statement of what had been done.

PIRACIES ON THE WEST RIVER.

On this question, the Secretary reported that on the 26th April, a further letter had been addressed to the Government stating, in reference to the route to be patrolled from Samshui to the sea, that the consensus of opinion among those engaged in the navigation of the West River was that the route should be that now generally in use, viz., Wangmoon, Sailam, and Junction Channels and the West River between Kongmoon and Samshui.

Read reply received on the 4th inst., announcing that the Naval Authorities, in deference to this opinion, had given directions for the patrol of the route mentioned by the Chamber.

AMOI AND THE FORMOSA TEA TRADE.

A letter having been received from the Amoy Chamber of Commerce, enclosing copy of a further despatch addressed by that body to the British Minister at Tokyo, protesting against the imposition of a discriminating duty on teas shipped from Formosa to the United States or Europe via Chinese ports or Hongkong, and requesting the co-operation of this Chamber.

Another letter in support of the Amoy Chamber's representations, passed on the 28th April, despatched to Sir Ernest Satow by this Chamber, expressing the opinion that the levy of this discriminating duty was an infringement of the terms of the Treaty of 1894, and hoping that His Excellency would succeed in obtaining its removal.

A copy of the above letter was also forwarded for the information of H. E. the officer administering the Government of Hongkong.

A reply had since been despatched to the Amoy Chamber enclosing copy of the despatch addressed to the British minister at Tokyo.

This concluded the business.

The following are the letters referred to under the two latter headings:—

PIRACIES ON THE WEST RIVER.

Hongkong General Chamber of Commerce, Hongkong, 30th April, 1900.

Sir,—Adverting to my letter of the 20th inst., with reference to Admiral Seymour's suggestion that one route only should be used by merchant steamers from Samshui to the sea, and in which he indicates the "Broadway" as the most desirable, I am now in a position to give the result of the reference to those principally concerned.

All the masters of steamers engaged in the navigation of the river are unanimous in recommending that, instead of the "Broadway," the following route, which is more generally in use, should be patrolled by the war vessels, viz., Wangmoon, Sailam, and Junction Channels and the West River between Kongmoon and Samshui.

I have the honour to be, Sir, Your most obedient servant,

W. CHATTERTON WILCOX, Secretary.

To Hon. F. H. May, C.M.G., Acting Colonial Secretary.

Colonial Secretary's Office, Hongkong, 4th May, 1900.

Sir,—With reference to your letter of the 26th ultimo suggesting a route to be patrolled by Her Majesty's ships with a view to the better protection of trade on the West River, I am directed to inform you that the Naval Authorities have given directions for the patrol of the route mentioned in your letter, namely from Samshui to the sea by Wangmoon, Sailam, and Junction Channels and the West River between Samshui and Kongmoon.

I have the honour to be, Sir, Your most obedient servant,

F. H. MAY, Acting Colonial Secretary.

The Secretary to the Chamber of Commerce.

AMOI AND THE FORMOSA TEA TRADE.

Amoy General Chamber of Commerce, Amoy, 30th April, 1900.

Sir,—I beg leave to enclose copy of a letter dated 5th instant addressed to Sir E. Satow, K.C.M.G., Her Majesty's Minister at Tokyo, on the subject of tea duties in Formosa.

The Chamber will be grateful to you if you can take any action in support of its representations.

I am, Sir, Your obedient servant,

FRANCIS CASS, Chairman, Hongkong General Chamber of Commerce.

Amoy General Chamber of Commerce, Amoy, 5th April, 1900.

Your Excellency.—This Chamber begs to acknowledge receipt of your despatch dated 18th December last, the contents of which have received careful consideration, and it has been resolved to again address you on the subject of export duties on teas shipped from Formosa.

The complaint which this Chamber makes is that the Japanese Government since the 3rd August last, despite the protest of shippers in Formosa, has levied and continues to levy a discriminating duty on teas shipped from Formosa in the following way:—

1.—If shipped via Japan for the United States and Europe a levy called a "Harbour Tax" of yen 1.00 per picul is made. This tea can then be exported from Japan without further payment of Duty.

2.—If shipped to the United States and Europe via any port in China or via Hongkong or elsewhere, other than Japan, an Export Duty of yen 1.60 is levied.

3.—If shipped via Hongkong and Japan for the United States and Europe, the duty of yen 1.00 per picul is still charged. Thus making the Duty clearly one on a particular route.

It is true as you point out that the difference is but 60 sen per picul, but the Chamber submits that the actual amount is not so much the point as the principle involved, which it allows to pass unchallenged leaves no safeguard that the difference may not be accentuated until British shipping and the choice of the Suez route are handicapped out of evidence.

British Merchants in Amoy are vitally interested in the Formosa Tea Trade, it having been developed by them from absolutely nothing under the Chinese sovereignty of the island. Hitherto Amoy has been the emporium of Formosa Teas whence they are shipped to the United States and Europe, and to Java and the Straits, none being consumed in Japan and practically none in China either.

Amoy is the nearest port to Formosa available for ocean steamers and the natives engaged in the trade are all from Amoy. With these advantages Amoy merchants might naturally look to maintaining their position, provided equal Export duties are levied on shipments from Formosa, no matter what the destination may be.

In the statement above presented to you there is a clear case of injustice to British merchants whose trade, after some 30 years of building up, is threatened by means of discriminating duties in favour of a particular route.

With the near approach of the Tea Season your kind assistance is urgently asked to the end that the Japanese Government may be induced to remove the discriminating element in these Duties.

I have the honour to be, Your Excellency's obedient servant,

FRANCIS CASS, Chairman.

His Excellency, Sir Ernest Satow, K.C.M.G., Her Majesty's Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary, Tokyo.

Hongkong General Chamber of Commerce, Hongkong, 28th April, 1900.

Sir,—Referring to previous correspondence on the question of the imposition by the Formosan Government of a discriminating duty on teas shipped from Formosa to the United States or Europe via Chinese ports or Hongkong, this Chamber is in receipt of a further communication from the Amoy Chamber of Commerce stating that this duty is still being levied, in spite of protests on

Cruisers.
Cruiser, 1st class.